DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: July 2, 1954
5 p.m.

SUBJECT: Return of Colonel Castillo Armas to Guatemala

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. William L. Krieg, Counselor of Embassy, Guatemala
Assistant Secretary Henry F. Holland

COPIES TO: The Secretary
General Smith
Mr. Murphy

1—1403

Mr. Holland asked if Mr. Krieg had heard from Ambassador Peurifoy. Mr. Krieg said that he had been in touch with him an hour ago and that he and Monzon were still in San Salvador. Mr. Holland said that he was concerned because Castillo Armas had not returned and that he had heard two reports indicating that the forces of the Government were advancing on Castillo Armas' forces and renewing hostilities. Mr. Krieg asked where this was taking place. Mr. Holland replied that he did not know. Mr. Holland asked that Mr. Krieg do two things: Get in touch with the members of the Junta there to tell them the story and that this might break up the happy solution reached in San Salvador. Have the Attaché fly his plane to see if there were any evidences of hostilities. Mr. Holland said that it may be that the troops are in motion without authorization from Guatemala. Mr. Krieg said he would follow through, and added that there were thousands of people lined up in the streets anxiously awaiting the return of Castillo Armas, and that he would lose a historic opportunity to enter the city as a hero.

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